

APR 11 2005

Docket No.
524941/0018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Koichi Toba, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2861

Application No.: 10/615,136

Examiner: Anh T.N. Vo

Filed: July 8, 2003

For: **INK CARTRIDGE AND VACUUM-PACKAGING PRODUCT
CONTAINING THE SAME**

Date: April 11, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent).

The following checked sections apply to this Information Disclosure Statement:

- ☐ In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii) as revised at 69 Fed. Reg. 56481 (September 21, 2004), copies of the cited U.S. patent application publication(s) and/or U.S. patent(s) have not been submitted.
- ☒ The cited reference(s) were called to Applicant's attention in a counterpart foreign patent application. A copy of the official communication in that counterpart foreign patent application citing the reference(s) is submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of the cited art.
- ☐ At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so English abstracts of those references (that reference) are provided, if available.
- ☐ At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so machine English translations of those references (that reference) are provided, where available.
- ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under Sec. 1.53(d), (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in Sec. 1.491 in an international application, (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request

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for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Accordingly, neither a fee nor Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is due.

- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and so is accompanied by one of:

- (1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; or
- (2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.

- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- (1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; and
- (2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.

- ☐ Fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (\$180) to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

- ☐ Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in Sec. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☒ Additional Comments

Applicant(s) have the following additional comments:

An English translation of the cited Chinese Office Action has been provided. The referenced identified in that Office Action (US 6,062,390, EP 1 199 178 and EP 1 125 747) already are of record in this case, having been cited in the IDS filed July 20, 2004. Pursuant to MPEP 609, those references have not been cited again.

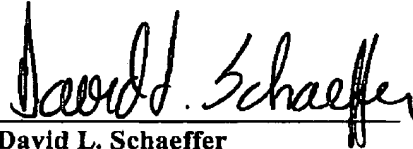
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/615,136
Information Disclosure Statement
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It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent) be returned to the undersigned indicating that such information has been considered.

Other than any fees mentioned above, no fees are believed to be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which are deemed to be now or hereafter due in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant(s) attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David L. Schaeffer", is written over a horizontal line.

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